

City rentals still modest

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HOPE is on the horizon for CBD renters, with local real estate agents reporting affordable accommodation is still available despite the flood crisis.

In addition, inner-city rents have not skyrocketed since the floods to the extent initially predicted.

Rob Honeycombe of Bees Nees City Realty, South Brisbane, said he still had one and two-bedroom units on offer at Highgate Hill, West End and Kelvin Grove.

"A lot of city real estate agents are saying the same thing: there are still properties available right now and tenants aren't having to fight each other for them in the inner-city," Mr Honeycombe said.

"We manage a lot of properties - I don't think rents have gone up much at all."

Lachlan Walker, from Place Projects Business, said CBD rents had risen by 10 per cent.

Mr Walker also said that a lot of "executive rentals" of up to \$1000 a week had been snapped up very quickly.

"Our guys have reported demand for rentals has definitely picked up, with much more competition," he said.

"But it's fair to say more flood-affected areas like the inner-western suburbs are under more pressure than the CBD."

Meanwhile, Real Estate Institute of Queensland managing director Dan Molloy said median rents compiled by the Residential Tenancies Authority for January showed only a slight increase of \$5 per week for two-bedroom inner-city units.

☎ **Are you struggling to find rental accommodation after the flood crisis? Tell us at www.city-news.com.au**